IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GUAM TERRITORY OF GUAM

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

JOHN D. WALKER,
aka JON WALKER,
MARVIN R. REED,
KENNETH R. CROWE,
PHILLIP T. KAPP,

Defendants.)

Criminal Case No. 18-00010

)

Criminal Case No. 18-00010

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
BEFORE THE HONORABLE MICHAEL J. BORDALLO,
MAGISTRATE JUDGE
(Via telephone)
MAY 6, 2020; 9:00 A.M.
HAGATNA, GUAM

Motion Hearing on an Amended Motion for Hearing to Address
Potential Conflict of Interest and a Motion for Protective
Order, Prevent Removal of Evidence, Schedule Inspection,
Prevent Harassment of Witnesses
09 01:50AM
01:50AM
01:50AM
09 01:50AM
09 02:01AM

09:02:01AM

Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography.

APPEARANCES

Appearing on behalf of plaintiff:

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
BY: STEPHEN LEON GUERRERO, AUSA (via telephone)
MARIE MILLER, SAUSA (via telephone)
Suite 500, Sirena Plaza
108 Hernan Cortez Avenue
Hagatna, Guam 96910
(671) 472-7332

Appearing on behalf of Defendant Walker:

LAW OFFICE OF JAMES M. MAHER

BY: JAMES M. MAHER, ESQ. (via telephone) 238 Archbishop Flores Street Suite 300, DNA Building Hagatna, Guam 96910 (671) 477-7892

BY: MACK K. MARTIN, ESQ. (via telephone) 125 Park Avenue, 5th Floor Oklahoma City, OK 73102

Appearing on behalf of Defendant Reed:

LAW OFFICE OF PETER C. PEREZ

BY: PETER C. PEREZ, ESQ. (via telephone) 238 Archbishop Flores Street Suite 802, DNA Building Hagatna, Guam 96910 (671) 475-5055

Appearing on behalf of Defendant Crowe:

LAW OFFICE OF LUJAN & WOLFF

BY: DAVID J. LUJAN, ESQ. (via telephone) 238 Archbishop Flores Street

LAW OFFICE OF GREGORY NICOLAYSEN

BY: GREGORY NICOLAYSEN, ESQ. (via telephone) 27240 Turnberry Lane, Suite 200 Valencia, CA 91355 (818) 970-7247

Veronica F. Flores, CSR-RPR Official Court Reporter 520 W. Soledad Avenue Hagatna, Guam 96910 Appearing on behalf of Defendant Kapp:

LAW OFFICE OF ANTHONY C. PEREZ

BY: ANTHONY C. PEREZ, ESQ. (via telephone)

238 Archbishop Flores Street Suite 802, DNA Building Hagatna, Guam 96910 (671) 475-5055

BY: EDWARD A. MCCONWELL, ESQ., (via telephone)
LAURA L. MCCONWELL, ESQ. (via telephone)
5201 Johnson Drive, Suite 300
Mission, KS 66205

Appearing on behalf of Defendant Hansen:

LAW OFFICE OF EDWARD C. HAN

BY: EDWARD C. HAN, ESQ. (via telephone)

378 Sara Street Purple Heart Highway Maite, GU 96910 (671)477-9219

Appearing on behalf of Defendant Rogers:

LAW OFFICE OF GUMATAOTAO & POLE

BY: WILLIAM B. POLE, ESQ. (via telephone)

Suite 301, San Ramon Building 115 San Ramon Street Hagatna, GU 96910 (671)475-0200

ALSO PRESENT:

John Walker, Defendant (via telephone)

Marvin Reed, Defendant (via telephone)

Kenneth Crowe, Defendant (via telephone)

Phillip Kapp, Defendant (via telephone)

Viranousith Khamvongsa, IRS agent (via telephone)

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Court to take matters under advisement and issue decision shortly

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Veronica F. Flores, CSR-RPR Official Court Reporter 520 W. Soledad Avenue Hagatna, Guam 96910

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May 6, 2020; 9:01 a.m.; Hagatna, Guam
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                                                                           09:00AM
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                   THE CLERK: Your Honor, all the parties are
                                                                           09:01AM
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     present.
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                   THE COURT: All right, go ahead and call the case
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     then.
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                   THE CLERK: Okay, Your Honor. Come to order, the
                                                                           09:01AM
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     District Court of Guam is now in session, the Honorable
                                                                           09:01AM
 9
     Michael J. Bordallo presiding on Criminal Case 18-00010, USA
                                                                           09:01AM
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     versus John D. Walker, Marvin R. Reed, Kenneth R. Crowe,
                                                                           09:01AM
11
     Phillip T. Kapp, Randall Rogers, and Hansen Helicopters on a
                                                                           09:01AM
12
     Motion Hearing on an Amended Motion for Hearing to Address
                                                                           09:01AM
     Potential Conflict of Interest and a Motion for Protective
1.3
                                                                           09:01AM
14
     Order, Prevent Removal of Evidence, Schedule Inspection,
                                                                           09:01AM
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     Prevent Harassment of Witnesses.
                                                                           09:02AM
16
                   Counsels, please state your appearance, starting
                                                                           09:02AM
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     with the government. And we'll go from Defendant 1 all the
                                                                           09:02AM
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     way down.
                 Thank you.
                                                                           09:02AM
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                   MR. LEON GUERRERO: Buenas and hafa adai, Your
                                                                           09:02AM
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     Honor, this is Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen Leon Guerrero.
                                                                           09:02AM
     Also present with me is IRS Agent Sith Khamvongsa. Also
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                                                                           09:02AM
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     present is co-counsel, Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Marie
                                                                           09:02AM
23
     Miller.
                                                                           09:02AM
                   MS. MILLER: Hafa adai, Your Honor.
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                   THE COURT: Hafa adai.
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MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, this is Mack Martin.
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     represent John Walker. I'm getting him on the other line.
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     had accidentally disconnected him, but he'll be on the phone
                                                                          09:02AM
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     in just a moment.
                                                                          09:02AM
                                And is local Counsel, Jim Maher, also
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                   THE COURT:
                                                                          09:02AM
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     on or is it just you, Mr. Martin?
                                                                          09:02AM
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                   MR. MARTIN: Mr. Maher is on.
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                   THE COURT: Okay. All right, thank you.
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                   MR. PEREZ:
                                Good morning, Your Honor, Peter Perez
                                                                          09:02AM
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     present with Mr. Reed by telephone.
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                   THE COURT:
                                Okay.
                                       Thank you.
                                                                          09:03AM
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                   MR. LUJAN:
                                Good morning, Your Honor, -- Lujan
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     and, you know, and also on the phone is Gregory Nicolaysen on
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     behalf of Rufus Crowe and Mr. Nicolaysen will be arguing on
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     behalf of Mr. Crowe.
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                   MR. NICOLAYSEN: Good morning, Your Honor, Greg
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     Nicolaysen here from Los Angeles.
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                   MR. POLE: Attorney William Pole, Your Honor --
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     go ahead.
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                   THE COURT: Go ahead, go ahead.
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                   MR. POLE:
                               William Pole, Your Honor, on behalf of
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     Randall Rogers. He's in Georgia.
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                   THE COURT:
                                Okay.
                                                                          09:03AM
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                   MR. MCCONWELL: Edward McConwell, Laura McConwell
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     on behalf of Phillip Kapp, and Mr. Perez is on the phone too.
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1 (Pause.) 09:03AM 2 THE COURT: All right. 09:03AM 3 This is Ed Han for Hansen Helicopters. 09:03AM 4 THE COURT: Okay, and Mr. Nicolaysen, on behalf 09:03AM of Mr. Lujan, has Mr. Nicolaysen filed his pro hac vice in 5 09:03AM 6 this case already? 09:04AM 7 MR. NICOLAYSEN: Yes, Your Honor, it was done two 09:04AM 8 years ago. 09:04AM 9 Okay. All right. So he -- I haven't THE COURT: 09:04AM 10 seen but I saw -- all right. Thank you. All right. Let's go 09:04AM for the first matter before the Court is the amended motion 11 09:04AM 12 for a hearing to address potential conflicts and what I don't 09:04AM 1.3 need is I don't need a repeat of anything that's contained in 09:04AM 14 the briefs. 09:04AM 15 So beginning with the government, is there 09:04AM 16 anything in addition to what's been filed that you wish the 09:04AM 17 Court to be aware of? 09:04AM 18 MR. LEON GUERRERO: Yes, yes, Your Honor. Thank 09:04AM 19 Stephen Leon Guerrero. So really, in addition to, you 09:04AM 20 know, the arguments that were raised in our filing, it has 09:04AM 21 come to our attention that there is in fact a joint defense 09:04AM 2.2 agreement amongst the defendants and that was something we 09:04AM 23 weren't aware of or sure of when we initially filed this 09:04AM 2.4 motion, and because we've been made aware of that, you know, 09:04AM 25 we're simply asking the Court to make sure that there's no, 09:05AM

09:06AM

you know, potential for conflict of interest in any way to be able to conduct an in camera review of that joint defense agreement to determine if there's any potential for conflict of interest. You know, the big concern, you know, that the government has is, we have Defendant Hansen who wasn't a defendant in the initial indictment, um, is a defendant now, and our concern is, if Defendant Hansen is paying the legal fees of its co-defendants, you know, there is a potential for conflict of interest if one of these defendants chooses to want to cooperate and assist the government against its co-defendants but can't because Defendant Hansen is paying its attorneys fees.

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So, you know, that is a conflict of interest that the government is trying to avoid. The other thing, too, is you know, what we want to point out in addition is, you know, we had attorney Martin who, you know, it's our position, was representing Defendant Hansen and Defendant Walker at the same time. And so, you know, that was evident in the sense that you know, now, you know, they have attorney Han who's now representing Defendant Hansen. But, you know, since the indictment, you know, there's multiple layers of the potential for conflict of interest to arise.

At one point, attorney McConwell, and this was noted in our filing ECF 416, you know, we have attorney McConwell that sought to deregister aircraft with the FAA.

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And what's important to note is these aircraft that he's looking to deregister belong to subsidiaries of Defendant Hansen, again, who at least at one time was being represented by attorney Martin.

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So, you know, we have that potential conflict of interest where attorney McConwell, in essence, representing these Defendant Hansen subsidiaries and trying to deregister these aircraft with the FAA. We also have Defendant Crowe and Defendant Crowe either has a position and/or role with these Vanuatu subsidiaries. And the same thing with Defendant Crowe, he sought to deregister aircraft with the FAA, again, creating this potential layer of a conflict, not only with himself, but again, attorney Martin and others.

So, you know, that -- you know, the big thing with the government, Your Honor, bringing this motion is just really having a hearing to ensure that, you know, we point out the concerns that we have and, you know, the different scenarios that we believe that there may be a potential conflict of interest. And, you know, ultimately, it will be the Court to make that determination if a conflict or not even just an actual conflict but the potential for a conflict exists and that's merely what the government is just trying to do, we have an obligation to bring it to the Court's attention if we feel that there is a potential and that's what we did. And so with those arguments, Your Honor, we submit, unless my

co-counsel, SAUSA Miller, has anything else she'd like to add. 1 09:08AM 2 MS. MILLER: I do not. I do not. Thank you, 09:08AM 3 Your Honor. Thank you, Stephen. 09:08AM Thank you. Let me begin 4 THE COURT: All right. 09:08AM with Mr. Walker's Counsel, Mr. Martin, you can go ahead and 5 09:08AM 6 address if you have addition to add other than what's been 09:08AM 7 filed? 09:08AM 8 MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, I accidentally 09:08AM 9 disconnected myself, so when I picked up, Mr. Leon Guerrero 09:08AM 10 was talking about Hansen and attorney's fees being paid. 09:08AM 11 Anything before then, I didn't hear and I apologize. 09:09AM 12 accidentally disconnected, but let me just briefly say my 09:09AM technology, Your Honor, is not that great. Let me just --1.3 09:09AM 14 THE COURT: Well, let me just -- I guess, if I 09:09AM 15 can attempt to bring you up to speed, Counsel has just brought 09:09AM 16 up that there in fact exists a joint defense agreement and 09:09AM 17 then the obvious concern about the conflicts. He referenced 09:09AM 18 Mr. McConwell may be representing subsidiaries of Hansen in 09:09AM 19 attempts at deregistration. The Court has reviewed those 09:09AM 20 requests, the deregistrations that were filed as exhibits and 09:09AM 21 the conflicts that may be associated with that. So that's 09:09AM 22 kind of where the government was. Go ahead, you can then now 09:09AM 23 argue to the Court if you have anything you wish the Court to 09:09AM 2.4 be aware of other than what's been filed. 09:09AM 25 MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, very briefly. I 09:09AM

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     represent John Walker. I don't represent Hansen, I don't
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     represent anyone else. My loyalties are to John Walker. He's
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     aware of that. He's previously executed a waiver of conflict
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     of interest in this case as relation to all other defendants
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     and on behalf of Hansen, a waiver. But there's -- I
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     understand -- I've been doing this for a long, long time.
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     understand what a conflict is. And if the government wants to
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     make an offer to us for us to cooperate against them, I'm sure
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                             I don't think Hansen is going to impact
     willing to hear them.
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     my loyalty or duties to John Walker in any way shape or form
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     if that's a concern of theirs. I will advise the Court that
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                                                                         09:10AM
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     we all do have a common defense. Our common defense is we
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     haven't done anything wrong, but that doesn't create a
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     conflict of interest.
                             I think the issues are clearly set out
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     in the briefs filed by all the parties and I would stand on
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     that, Judge.
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                   THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. Martin.
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     Let me -- go ahead, I'm sorry.
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                   (Pause.)
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                   THE COURT: We may have lost Mr. Martin again.
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                  MR. MARTIN: No, I'm here. I'm here, Judge. Can
                                                                         09:11AM
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     you hear me?
                                                                         09:11AM
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                   THE COURT: Yes, okay. Is that it, Mr. Martin?
                                                                         09:11AM
                                That's it, and I think my Counsel --
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                  MR. MARTIN:
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     my client's on the phone, if you need a waiver from him, he
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can orally do it and if we need to do another one, we're happy to do that.

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THE COURT: All right. Let me just move up the line. Mr. Perez, anything on behalf of Mr. Reed?

MR. PEREZ: Just briefly, Your Honor. First, we join in the opposition filed by co-defendants in Document 415 and 417. I would just reiterate that my loyalty as Counsel is to Defendant Reed only. I would also point out that Mr. Reed also signed a waiver which was submitted to the Court previously.

I would just also submit that the government has made no threshold showing of any conflict and I would also just point out that the issue regarding the conflict based upon payment of fees was raised previously by the government addressed by this Court with Judge Manibusan and was denied back then and this is the same issue that's being raised again and I have nothing further to add other than that.

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Pole, anything to add on behalf of Mr. Rogers?

MR. POLE: Your Honor, I would just add that of course, again, my loyalty is to Mr. Rogers and he's only on one count. So that even if there was a conflict for the other defendants, which we don't see, it wouldn't be imputed to my client, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. On behalf of Mr. Kapp,

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Mr. McConwell or Tony?

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MR. MCCONWELL: This is Mr. McConwell, Your
Honor. I join in that. My loyalty is to Mr. Kapp. He's also
waived any potential conflict. I do not believe there's a
conflict with regard to the administrative matters we've been
dealing with, with regard to the FAA enforcement case or the
letter, or e-mail that you got from me to another Counsel in
this case urging them to go ahead and allow deregistration. I
might point out to you they have blocked every deregistration
of aircraft in the registry right now and I think they have
something like 58 hold orders, so they're trying to block
deregistration by Hansen of the right to deregister their
aircraft. But my client has no objection to the network that
I've done for the Vanuatu corporations and has executed the
waiver.

THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. McConwell.

On behalf of Mr. Crowe, Mr. Nicolaysen?

MR. NICOLAYSEN: Yes, thank you, Your Honor, Greg Nicolaysen from Los Angeles speaking on behalf of Mr. Crowe together with my co-Counsel David Lujan. Your Honor, I ask the Court to take note as our papers mention of the waiver of conflicts filed on February 22nd of 2019, PACER

Document 2-0-4. That waiver resolves any issue of any potential conflict and there certainly was no actual conflict that was being raised by the government in its initial filing

back in 2018. And so looking at February of 2019 forward in 1 09:14AM 2 time up to the present time, the government has not addressed 09:14AM 3 any circumstance that would suggest that during the period 09:14AM 4 subsequent to the filing of the conflict waivers, which Judge 09:14AM Manibusan accepted, there has been anything to raise divided 5 09:14AM 6 loyalties or any other type of conflict in regard to the 09:14AM 7 representation of Mr. Crowe. And in my view, that this is 09:14AM 8 simply, as our papers argue, an effort to delay the trial. 09:14AM 9 In regard to the filing of the amended motion, 09:14AM 10 it's all in our papers, I won't repeat the argument here, but 09:14AM 11 there is certainly no basis for any type of conflict inquiry 09:15AM 12 or even for the filing of a supplemental waiver. There is no 09:15AM need for any additional waiver in regard to Mr. Crowe. 1.3 09:15AM 14 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, 09:15AM 15 Mr. Nicolaysen. I apologize for butchering your name but I 09:15AM 16 think I got it now. 09:15AM 17 MR. NICOLAYSEN: No, it's fine. 09:15AM 18 THE COURT: Mr. Han, on behalf of Hansen 09:15AM 19 Helicopters, anything -- because you're -- I guess the amended 09:15AM 20 complaint that is now Hansen formally as a defendant. 09:15AM 21 MR. HAN: Yes, Your Honor. Um, nothing else to 09:15AM 2.2 add except the fact that I'd be loyal to the Hansen 09:15AM 23 Helicopters, the corporation. 09:15AM 2.4 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. 09:15AM 25 MR. LEON GUERRERO: Your Honor, this is AUSA Leon 09:15AM

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Guerrero, just a brief rebuttal.

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THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead.

MR. LEON GUERRERO: Now, I would say that the, you know, the circumstances have changed and really those waivers that were previously submitted to the Court are outdated because at the time, Defendant Hansen was not a co-defendant in the case. So I would say that the circumstances have changed and really those -- the initial waivers that were provided to the Court really are no longer pertinent and they're outdated, given the current superseding indictment.

THE COURT: All right.

MR. NICOLAYSEN: Your Honor, on behalf of
Mr. Crowe, I'd like to respond since it was in response to my
comment. The government has an obligation to make a prima
facie showing that there is a reason to be concerned about a
serious potential for conflict or an actual conflict. The
mere fact that the corporate entity was not a defendant at the
time the original conflict waivers were filed in February 2019
and we now have the corporate defendant in this case, that is
not a sufficient change of circumstance to suggest that there
are divided loyalties that would warrant further inquiry. And
the government needs to demonstrate that there is some basis
for divided loyalties sufficient to conduct further inquiry in
camera or otherwise. If the Court wishes to conduct further

09:17AM

09:18AM

inquiry, I would recommend that that be done outside the government's presence and the Court can take oral waivers by phone at this hearing in an under-seal proceeding and we can have it resolved now. I don't think it's necessary, but I think the defendants would be prepared to do that if the Court feels that the need has arisen for a supplemental waiver.

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THE COURT: No, the Court has reviewed the defendants' briefs and also the arguments with respect to the nature of the initial investigation and the government's awareness certainly since 2015 of the involvement of -- well, the newest defendant, Hansen Helicopters, and that the investigation really was -- was geared towards them from the beginning.

The Court, I think, just needs to remind the lawyers to, you know, I'm sure the lawyers are aware of their duty under Rule 1.8 and just make sure that you guys remain in compliance with the rules and everybody's affirmatively stated their loyalty to their specific client — the insistence of a defense agreement and whether or not compensation may or may not be coming from — from — from persons other than their client. So let's just make sure we remain cognizant of that and remain in compliance with that as well as 1.6 dealing with confidentiality with respect to your individual client. Okay? I don't think the Court needs to be concerned with that. The second motion before the Court is — so the Court will take

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     that matter under advisement and will issue an order as soon
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     as possible.
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                   The other motion before the Court is motion for
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     protective order by the government to schedule an inspection
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     and to prevent harassment of the witnesses. Again, the Court
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     has reviewed all the documents that have been filed
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     previously. Mr. Leon Guerrero or Ms. Martin [sic], is there
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     anything the government wishes to add with respect to that
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     motion?
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                   MS. MILLER: Yes, Your Honor, this is Marie
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     Miller, can you hear me?
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                   THE COURT:
                                I'm sorry, Ms. Miller, I apologize.
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                   MS. MILLER: Oh, that's okay. Can you hear me
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     okay?
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                   MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, may I interject
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     something first?
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                   THE COURT: And who is this?
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                   MR. MARTIN: This is Mr. Martin, Your Honor.
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                                                                          09:19AM
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     represent Mr. Walker. I had a suggestion about this motion if
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     I might interject and then if you want to proceed, that's
                                                                          09:19AM
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     fine.
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                   THE COURT: Go ahead.
                                                                          09:19AM
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                   MR. MARTIN: That the government has also filed,
                                                                          09:19AM
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     issued 62 subpoenas for the production of these same identical
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     helicopters addressing almost the same issues, and rather than
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being repetitive, I was going to suggest we might set both 09:19AM arguments for the same time at a later date, because the same 09:20AM issues will virtually be addressed in those arguments that are 09:20AM going to be addressed here. And if the Court wants to 09:20AM proceed, that's fine, but I wanted to make that suggestion. 09:20AM THE COURT: So Ms. Miller, what is the briefing 09:20AM period -- I assume, Mr. Martin, you're referring to a motion 09:20AM to quash the subpoenas then, there's a motion to quash that's 09:20AM pending; is that correct? 09:20AM MR. MARTIN: That's correct, Your Honor. 09:20AM THE COURT: Does anybody know what the briefing 09:20AM schedule is for that? I don't know it off hand. 09:20AM MS. MILLER: Your Honor, there isn't anything 09:20AM scheduled yet in terms of hearing that motion and the 09:20AM 09:20AM

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MS. MILLER: Your Honor, there isn't anything scheduled yet in terms of hearing that motion and the government does not concede that the Rule 16 motion is the same as the Rule 17 motion. Those are two distinct procedural processes and it is inappropriate to say that they should be argued and heard at the same time. The motion for a protective order is a critical motion that should be heard and ruled on by the Court as soon as possible and since we have this hearing time and no one has before now recommended that we move it and combine it with the Rule 17 motion and I suggest we do go forward, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. Go ahead, Ms. Miller, then. Mr. Martin, we'll hear the argument and go from there.

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MS. MILLER: Thank you, Your Honor. So I know
Your Honor does not want to hear anything that has already
been previously filed. I will however bring something to the
Court's attention that the Court may not be fully aware of:

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Number one, the FAA has tried to inspect these helicopters 29 times. There are 29 letters that have gone from the FAA to the defendants seeking repeatedly to inspect these helicopters to ensure that they are safe and air-worthy.

One of those requests was on Helicopter N No. 9068-F, as in Frank. And that particular aircraft was one that crashed and killed a pilot on September 3rd of 2015. And the defendants continue to refuse to produce the helicopters for inspection by the FAA for years, making numerous excuses similar to the excuses that they made in response to the government's motion here, that it would be too difficult to pull the helicopters in, that it is too challenging, that is it would cost them too much money, and our response is, too bad. The defendants actually are the ones who sought the registration of all of these helicopters by the FAA. And when they sought that registration by the FAA, they certified under penalty of perjury that they were seeking the registration to comply with all of the FAA rules and conditions, and since then, they have done anything but comply with those rules and conditions.

In this particular case, Your Honor, there has

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been a plea agreement entered into by an FAA inspector who admitted to his role in the honest services fraud and his role in issuing 30 airworthiness certificates, 3-0, to these defendants, without having actually conducted a proper inspection of either the aircraft or the legitimate paperwork tied to the aircraft.

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Another thing that Your Honor hasn't seen in the pleadings is that there have been nine deaths associated with Hansen-owned helicopters, six serious injuries associated with Hansen-owned and -operated helicopters. We know that the defendants have, "deregistered" and "reregistered" aircraft in the Philippines before.

For example, Your Honor, one of the aircraft, N369TG, Mr. Crowe said that Echo Air owned that aircraft. Echo Air is one of the numerous Vanuatu corporations created by the defendants for, according to them, insurance purposes. And despite the fact that Mr. Crowe indicated to the FAA that that aircraft is owned by Hansen outright and, therefore, Hansen has the right to deregister it and to reregister it in the Philippines, the FAA also has certification from Venezuela that that identical aircraft is registered there by a third party. Every single helicopter was registered with the FAA. And another example is N444GJ. Every single request for paperwork regarding that aircraft, even though it was allegedly a Vanuatu-owned aircraft, the defendants asked that

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all that paperwork be sent to Guam and this is something that they've done over and over again.

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We have a letter that we produced to you, Your Honor, from the Philippines, indicating -- not only from the Philippines by the way, Your Honor, from Vanuatu, from Palawan, confirming that the aircraft that the defendants ostensively deregistered here to reregister there were never in fact registered or their registrations were allowed to fail in the case of the Philippines.

I submitted to the Court yesterday an exhibit just to show you and to provide you with an example of just how outrageous the defendants' conduct is in relation to this particular case. The defendants submitted an exhibit in support of their motion to dismiss that the defendants represented was an exhibit relating to aircraft N831FG. what the defendants did was they only submitted to the Court part of the file on N831FG. They submitted an export letter requesting deregistration of that aircraft. They submitted a deregistration confirmation. They submitted a letter from the FAA registering the aircraft after the export request and then the registration from the FAA. What they did not submit to this Court was a statement of the whereabouts of that aircraft showing that that aircraft never left Guam, despite the representations to the government that it was being exported. What they didn't produce to the Court was a letter from

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Mr. Walker requesting the FAA registration after that aircraft was supposedly exported but we know it was never exported, nor did they produce to the Court another letter to the FAA, indicating that they were waiting for Vanuatu to confirm that the helicopter was never registered there and then they also didn't produce to the Court the Vanuatu confirmation that the aircraft was never registered there. We have letters from the defendants going to the FAA over the last ten years, talking about aircraft being exported, then saying, no, we never exported this aircraft, and meanwhile, the aircraft is in registration limbo, but we know, based on the information we received from the defendants, that these helicopters are making them millions of dollars a year, despite the fact that they have not been properly inspected.

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Finally, Your Honor, they want to ostensively remove the aircraft to the Philippines but we also produced a document for you from the Philippines referring to the defendants' utter defiance of civil aviation law and disregard of their responsibilities to the Philippines equivalent of the FAA as they have here.

Your Honor, you have the authority under Rule 16 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure to enter a protective order to allow the inspection of these helicopters and also to assure that they are not deregistered and not moved outside of the jurisdiction of the United States. When

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you consider what has happened in this case and how the defendants have repeatedly, repeatedly lied to the FAA and misrepresented and they are still using these helicopters to transport pilots and mechanics, putting all these individuals in danger, we ask this Court to exercise your jurisdiction under the rule and under the case law that we cited to grant the motion for a protective order, to require the defendants to finally bring these helicopters back to Guam for a proper inspection by the government and to make them available to the government. And I don't wish to add anything else other than what was already previously filed with the Court regarding the witness tampering, any other issues. Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. Let's -- Mr. Martin, on

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THE COURT: All right. Let's -- Mr. Martin, on behalf of Mr. Walker?

MR. MARTIN: Yes, Your Honor, thank you very much. Your Honor, I'm not sure that the government understands the purpose of Rule 16 discovery. They asked for discovery in this criminal case. They don't represent the Department of Transportation, they don't represent the FAA, they don't represent the Federal Bureau of Investigation, they don't represent Mr. Cislo, who's their star witness that they talk about in this case. Their one — their alleged purpose for this is for safety and airworthiness and they talk about 29 letters that have been sent ten years ago before I was even involved in this case. They admit they sent me one letter

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that was attached to my motion. I believe it was

December 12th saying, "Please tell us when we can inspect
these helicopters" and I responded to the letter, I asked them
to tell me what authority they had to do that. I said if you
got a problem with it, we'll take it up with Judge Gatewood or
call me on the phone. Neither one of those occurred. They
didn't call me, we didn't take it up with Judge Gatewood. I
figured they realized that they didn't have the authority to
do that, so we went on.

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Secondly, they talk about the case law in support of their motion for protective order. They cited no case law, Your Honor. Rule 16 doesn't -- the way I read the rule, doesn't give the government the authority to come in and inspect evidence that -- for materials that -- in a case, unless we're going to use it and I, in my motion said, we're not going to produce any helicopters, we're not going to use any helicopters at trial so we shouldn't -- we shouldn't produce it.

Thirdly, Your Honor, the thing that offends me the most, and I use that word very lightly, is the personal attacks on lawyers. The government has misrepresented in their motions things that my co-Counsel have been involved in, in this case. In particular, in reference to Mr. Cislo, they make blatant allegations that Mr. McConwell confronted and accosted Mr. Cislo, which did not occur. The government

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finally in January provided to us a 302 that's been identified 09:32AM as FBI Hansen Document No. 046383, where during a proffer 09:32AM session, the government alleged that Mr. McConwell confronted 09:32AM him inside his hangar. Mr. Cislo, and I'm reading from the 09:32AM FBI 302 itself now, says "On Saturday, July 14th, a male 09:32AM individual initiated contact with Cislo outside, outside of 09:32AM his private hangar." I made representations to the Court, as 09:32AM an officer of the Court, quite honestly, what occurred by mere 09:32AM happenstance on July 14th, and for them to make some type of 09:33AM outrageous allegations that he tried to talk to him and he 09:33AM tried to confront him about the case, he didn't intimidate him 09:33AM at all, Your Honor. Mr. Cislo doesn't say that. Mr. Cislo 09:33AM says -- even mentions that Mr. McConwell advised him that he 09:33AM attempted to contact Cislo's attorney, they did not receive a 09:33AM reply, consistent with exactly what I put in the motion, Your 09:33AM Honor. No Counsel in this case has done anything 09:33AM inappropriate. And I find it kind of offensive that the 09:33AM government would allege that there's something done 09:33AM inappropriate by any Counsel. There's no basis for a 09:33AM protective order. We all know the rules of ethics in this 09:33AM case just like we know the rules relating to a conflict of 09:33AM interest. I ask the Court to deny the government's motion, 09:33AM Your Honor. 09:33AM THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. Martin. 09:33AM

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Mr. Nicolaysen, anything to add?

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MR. NICOLAYSEN: Yes, Your Honor. Thank you.

Rule 16 is a very narrow and specific rule in criminal proceedings. It deals with discovery by both sides. The issuance of protective orders provide restrictions under Rule 16 that focus on the production of information by the government typically by which parameters are being established regarding the use of such evidence by the parties and we have these protective orders in gang cases, identity theft cases, etc., which is all about regulating how evidence is going to be managed and used by the parties.

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When the government seeks a protective order with respect to the defense, that protective order under Rule 16 must be tailored to defense evidence. That's not what's happening here. I'll give an example. If the defendants designated as a trial exhibit, a particular FAA-approved part that was used on the helicopters during the time period of the indictment, 2012 up to May 2018 when the first indictment was filed, and we are going to be having testimony at trial regarding that part, part of our presentation regarding helicopters, then the Court would be well within its rights and the government likewise, to direct the defense to make that part available for inspection because that part is now being designated by the defense as a trial exhibit. that's not happening -- the defense is not going to be designating helicopters as defense exhibits. That's just not

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going to happen. And therefore, the helicopters, which are the subject of this motion, do not fall within the purview of Rule 16. They are not reciprocal discovery from the defense to the government and the Court cannot issue any protective orders with regard to those helicopters because those helicopters simply don't fall within the parameters of Rule 16 and the government has made it clear in its filings, and as recently as yesterday in Document 460, that their motion for protective order is being brought under Rule 16. referred to as, "the government's Rule 16 motion." So therefore, the request by the government for (background noise) to inspect the helicopters, order directing Hansen not to transfer these helicopters as part of some sort of a protective order, all of that has to be justified within the very narrow and specific criteria of Rule 16, and because the helicopters don't fall within Rule 16, they are not reciprocal discovery, they are not going to be trial exhibits, this Court, and I say this with respect, has no authority to order any inspection. And what the government is doing, is arguing its case as if it were before an administrative body. Miller is from the Department of Transportation, she's well versed in FAA administrative procedures and the arguments that she has presented here, which pertain to which she considers safety issues, that there have been numerous requests to inspect, that in her judgment have been ignored, and so on all

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of that, goes to the issue of the FAA and the regulatory agency having the authority to suspend or revoke registrations, suspend or revoke airworthiness certificates. That's the power of a regulatory agency, same thing with the FDA over a drug company, the ACF over a gun manufacturer and The arguments presented by Ms. Miller are suited for the administrative environment where Hansen or whoever would be, you know, deemed the appropriate owner of the helicopters, would be subject to some administrative sanction for failing to satisfy the safety and other obligations including making the helicopters available for inspection. That's an administrative issue. That has nothing at all to do with the criminal proceeding or the narrow criteria under Rule 16. I should emphasize that these helicopters, the vast majority of the ones that's listed in the superseding indictment, which for round numbers -- let's just use the number sixty, the vast majority of these helicopters have valid registrations and valid airworthiness certificates. In fact, registrations have three-year time tables and if Your Honor goes to www.faa.gov and you have the superseding indictment in front of Your Honor that has the table and all of these N numbers of the sixty helicopters and you just start typing these N numbers into the search engine on the home page, you'll get the profile of the helicopters and you will see that the vast majority of them have valid registrations. Well, in fact, valid registrations

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that expire either this year, 2021, even 2022. That means the FAA has been renewing these registrations during the period of the investigation of this case which goes back at least to 2015 and earlier, and during the prosecution of this case.

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So when the government complains, as it does, that the helicopters are unsafe, and that we have refused inspections, those administrative arguments should be directed to the FAA as part of a claim that maybe the registrations should not have been renewed, maybe they should be suspended or revoked. But this is a motion under Rule 16 and none of the arguments the government has presented in its papers or here today orally have any relevance whatsoever to Rule 16.

Let me just close by speaking about the chronology of the superseding indictment. If Your Honor goes through the superseding indictment with an eye to the time periods of the different counts, and if the Court please, I'll be glad to do it, I have yellow highlighted it so I could recite all the paragraphs in the superseding indictment. Your Honor will see that the government has consistently framed the chronology of this prosecution from year 2012 up through May of 2018, which is the doorstep of the filing of the initial indictment, which was filed on May 31, 2018.

The superseding indictment, which was filed in December 2019, a year and a half later, has one substantive count that has to do with registrations that they claim was,

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you know, improperly done on June 10th of 2018, a couple of weeks after the first indictment. But other than that one ministerial charge, the entire superseding indictment is based on the same chronology as the original indictment, which doesn't go beyond May of 2018, and of course we are now in May of 2020, two years later.

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So the government cannot properly argue that there is anything about the current helicopters that are flying that has any relevance to the charges in the indictment. There is no allegation of continuity of misconduct, or that the charged conspiracy are ongoing conspiracies. It'd be very different in a RICO case. all seen RICO cases where, let's just use a gang or a mafia family where the defendants are on trial as members of a RICO enterprise that is still in existence through the ongoing prosecution and all the way up through a trial. And so when the mob family bosses in New York are on trial for being a member of -- you know, being a leader of the Gambino family, while they're in trial and while the prosecution is ongoing, the RICO enterprise is considered to be still active. And so it's still ongoing criminal activities. That's one of the key centers between RICO and conspiracy. Conspiracy, as we see in this case, has bookends; it has a beginning and an end. it's critical to recognize that the government is seeking to have Court orders issued for inspections that the Court is not

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authorized to issue, but the government is misunderstanding that today's helicopters have nothing to do with the time frame of the charge, because there's no allegation of any continuity of misconduct, that there's any crime being committed in 2020 that is relevant to the charge in this case, unless the government is planning to supersede. And if they are, I ask the government through Your Honor, tell us now so that we understand that; otherwise, based on chronology alone, the concept of inspection is completely irrelevant because of the two-year lapse between May of 2018 when the indictment charges them and May of 2020, which is where we are today. Those are my arguments to Your Honor and I would ask that the government's motion be denied. THE COURT: All right. Mr. Perez or Mr. McConwell on behalf of Defendant Kapp, anything to add? MR. PEREZ: Your Honor, I join in the opposition of 422, 424, 428 and 434 and we rest on those as well as the oral arguments presented by Mr. Martin and Mr. Nicolaysen. MR. MCCONWELL: This is Edward McConwell, Your Honor, if I could respond a little bit here. I could respond to everything that Ms. Miller said and believe me, she's only told you a fraction of the story in this matter. There is issues that she just brushed over and not given you the whole

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story.

One example you may not be aware of, but there's

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a motion to dismiss on lack of jurisdiction that's pending right now, it's been filed before the Court dealing with the validity or invalidity of the airworthiness cert -- or the registration certificates themselves.

MR. MILLER: Your Honor, I'm sorry to interrupt but I'm going to object to Mr. McConwell arguing anything relating to the motion to dismiss. I didn't ignore it. We're not here to argue it.

THE COURT: All right.

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MR. MCCONWELL: I'm bringing the matter to the Court's attention. I wasn't going to argue it, but I do want to give one example of something she did bring up that is very important in this case. She highlights 9068 Fox Trot. that's an aircraft that had an accident in September of 2015 and the Court -- the FAA was aware as of that time and actually back in April of 2015 of an issue with regard to the validity or invalidity to the aircraft registrations. acknowledged in their search warrant affidavit with regard to the search warrant that was issued from Guam by Judge Manibusan that 9068 Fox Trot was registered in the Philippines and because of that, and because of international law, that was an invalid registration, and at that point, absolutely knew they did not have jurisdiction over that aircraft, yet they plowed ahead and ignored the fact they didn't have jurisdiction with regard to that aircraft and the

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investigation that ensued from that, but it goes to the entire line of Vanuatu corporations. They were totally aware of the existence of them, the number and that they were foreign corporations. That is implications that we'll be dealing with later. I'm not going to go through everything she said.

There is a different story. There's more evidence that would be -- would neutralize the thing that she said and we could explain it to you, but it would take too long to do that.

But I do want to go back to the Mr. Cislo thing

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But I do want to go back to the Mr. Cislo thing at the airport. Mr. Cislo did not tell the truth to the FBI agents and that was an accidental meeting that occurred. We had no idea that he was going to even be there, didn't even knew he was. But for the way that has been misrepresented to the Court is very offensive and Mr. Martin's already spoke on my behalf and that's all I'm going to say about that, but I join in the pleadings that have been filed in this matter and ask that the motion for protective order be denied.

And I do have my question for you, my understanding, and I've been doing this for over 50 years, that a lawyer has the ability to be able to interview witnesses that are identified by the government or the plaintiff or the adverse party. The government seems to say that we can't do that and our clients are not supposed to by their conditions of release, but the lawyers and we have ethical standards we have to follow, that we've done nothing

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wrong and there seems -- seems to say we did and I'd like to know whether we are allowed to interview witnesses. I will tell you that I had one witness in this case say that he was told not to talk to anybody, including their lawyers, and that appeared to come from the government.

THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. McConwell.
Mr. Pete Perez, Jr., on behalf Mr. Reed? Anything?

MR. PEREZ: No, Your Honor.

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THE COURT: All right. Mr. Pole, on behalf of anything -- Mr. Rogers, anything you wish to add?

MR. POLE: Your Honor, just two things, one, we continue to object and have objected to the government's painting the defendants as being -- all defendants being in control of the helicopters. As we have pointed out and it's as well clear from the superseding indictment, Mr. Randy Rogers has no authority over those helicopters and has nothing to do with those helicopters and shouldn't be painted with a stroke as the government is trying to do here or in trial.

The only other thing I'd like to point out, Your Honor, obviously while we join with all other defendants in the motion, we're primarily concerned with the issue of the right to interview witnesses and I just wanted to point out that one of the cases that was cited was *United States versus Brumel-Alvarez*, which is 991 F.2d 1452, and the reason I want to point out is that was decided by the Ninth Circuit in 1993

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     that found a Brady violation where the government failed to
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     provide a DEA memo about one of their star witnesses on --
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     asking for the truth and I just want to point out that even
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     though that was 1993 and therefore before the U.S. Supreme
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     Court in Kyles v. Whitley, 514 U.S. 419, which wasn't decided
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     until 1995, that case is still consistent with the U.S.
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     Supreme Court that said that issues of Brady must be provided
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     to defense Counsel and is not that it is grounds for
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                  I think -- but we absolutely have a right to
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     interview witnesses to receive information and the government
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     provided nothing to suggest that even if this Court has the
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     right to sanction one defense attorney for alleged misconduct,
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     that it would have a right to sanction all defense attorneys
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     for the same misconduct and not allow for a proper defense,
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     that is, the interviewing of witnesses. I have nothing
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     further to add, Your Honor.
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                   THE COURT:
                               Thank you, Mr. Pole. Mr. Han,
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     anything on behalf of Hansen Helicopters other than what's
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     been argued?
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                   MR. HAN: Nothing to add, Your Honor.
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                   THE COURT: All right. Ms. Miller, briefly in
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     response to the arguments you heard from defense.
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                   MS. MILLER: Yes, Your Honor. First of all,
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     Mr. Martin actually said the letters that the government sent
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     to us were ten years old, that's absolutely not true. We have
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been sending them letters as recently as last year requesting inspection of these helicopters. I have letters dated April 29, 2015, June 23, 2015, July 8, 2015, then we can fast-forward to May 20, 2016, July 20, 2016. Let's move ahead, May 14, 2018, July 2nd, 2019. I can go on and on, Your Honor, but the point is that is absolutely a misstatement of fact.

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The second thing is, Mr. Martin said that the government doesn't understand Rule 16 and I would disagree with that and I would also state the defense Counsel has basically just kind of skirted over the explicit language of Rule 16 which says that this Court has the authority to require the defendant to permit inspection by the government of tangible objects and it's not only those objects that the defendant intends to use in its case in chief because, again, a third misstatement by defense Counsel, which is that the government cited -- case law, the government did cite substantial case law to support its position, including case law that indicates that if the defendant intends to cross-examine any of the government's witnesses in a criminal case regarding evidence, that the government is entitled to view that evidence. It is not a violation of the defendant's Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination and it is not necessary that the defendants use that evidence in their

case in chief. And all that case law was cited by the

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government to the Court, so I won't repeat it, but it is just completely ridiculous for defense to make that statement that no case law was cited.

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The fourth thing, Your Honor, is I understand very well the distinction between administrative proceeding and a civil proceeding. As a matter of fact, it's going to be really interesting to hear what the defendants have to say when they turn around and argue that administrative proceedings are the most meaningful thing for the Court to consider, but in this case, yes, I'm an attorney with the DOT OIG. I'm also a former federal prosecutor with extensive experience in conspiracy cases.

And the fifth issue that I'd like to address as an experienced federal prosecutor is, a conspiracy is not completed until its abandoned. We don't have to supersede in order to argue, and we will argue, so all of the defense Counsel need to be put on notice right now, it's the government's contention that this conspiracy has not ended, the conspiracy has continued.

As a matter of fact, immediately after the indictment, the first indictment in this case, there was another accident by one of these helicopters that the defendants owned and that the defendants have refused to allow to be inspected.

The sixth thing I want to address is the Cislo

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issue. This actually relates to the conflict of interest motion that was filed, Your Honor. If Mr. McConwell is calling Mr. Cislo a liar and saying that he did not disclose their interaction with each other truthfully to the FBI agent, then again, I want to put Mr. McConwell on notice that he will be called as a witness to testify under oath about where that meeting took place, when that meeting took place, what was said during the course of that meeting, because Mr. Cislo has confirmed for us that Mr. McConwell specifically told him that he should not be talking to him, he knew he shouldn't be talking to him, but he was still talking with him and Mr. Cislo said he felt intimidated.

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So to address the last point that Mr. Rogers'
Counsel brought up, the government isn't indicating in any way
shape or form that the defense cannot talk to witnesses or
understand what they're going to say. What we are indicating
is that it is inappropriate and a violation of law to
intimidate witnesses, number one, and number two, to offer to
pay attorney's fees for witnesses because that is unduly
influencing a witness and it goes into tampering with
witnesses and that is what we object to. I have nothing
further to say, Your Honor. Thank you.

MR. NICOLAYSEN: Your Honor, I'll be happy to respond. This is Greg Nicolaysen on behalf of Defendant -
MS. MILLER: No, Your Honor, I'm going to object

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     to Counsel responding. The way these arguments go is, we
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     filed the motion --
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                  THE COURT: That's fine. Ms. Miller, that's all
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     right. All right. The Court has heard enough. The Court
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     will take the matters under advisement, will issue its
                                                                         09:55AM
     recommendation and decision as soon as possible.
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                                                                         09:55AM
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                  MS. MILLER: Thank you, Your Honor.
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                  THE COURT: Thank you everybody.
                                                                         09:55AM
                   (Proceedings concluded at 9:55 a.m.)
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                     CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL REPORTER
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     CITY OF HAGATNA
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              I, Veronica F. Flores, Official Court Reporter for
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     the United States District Court of Guam, do hereby certify
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     the foregoing pages, 1 to 38, to be a true and correct
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     transcript of the proceedings held in the above-entitled
21
     matter to the best of my ability.
              Dated this 11th day of May 2020.
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                                   /s/Veronica F. Flores
                                   Veronica F. Flores
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